

Zabriskie-Christie House
10 Colonial Court
Dumont, Bergen County, New Jersey

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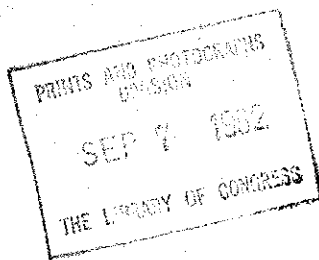
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer
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Zabriskie-Christie House
10 Colonial Court
Dumont, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Mrs. Hannah J. McCann

Date of Erection: Kitchen wing pre-revolutionary;
main house before 1816

Architect:

Builder: John W. Christie (main unit)

Present Condition: Excellent

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - fieldstone

Exterior walls - red sandstone,
front tooled face stones in
even 8" courses; gables shingles

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimney on main
house, outside brick on kitchen
wing

Roof - gambrel on main with
dormers of later date, pitch
on wing

Historical Data:

On June 10, 1779 the three commissioners of
Bergen County handling forfeited property sold to Isaac
Nichols a tract of land that had belonged to Albert
Zabriskie of Schraalenburg (now Dumont), then part of

the township of Hackensack. Zabriskie was charged with having joined the army of King of Great Britain in December 1776. The property contained two hundred forty-three and one-half acres with houses, stables, barns, and the like. The consideration was forty-seven hundred and thirty-four pounds. Since the wing of the present house is definitely pre-revolutionary, it has been assumed that it was probably built by Zabriskie. Nichols was apparently from the number of holdings on record a land speculator. He sold to one Thomas Lawrence on April 18, 1796 a plot of one hundred acres for twenty-five hundred pounds; this plot contained the site of the house. Lawrence sold the following year to John W. Christie. Just when Christie died we do not know, but on April 4, 1816 his widow and heirs sold to Nicholas Kipp for ten thousand and fifty dollars the homestead farm of John W. Christie. Therefore, the main part of the house was built before 1816. Since the timbers are sawed and not hewn it must have been built somewhere after 1800 probably 1810.

Nicholas Kipp held possession until 1857 when he sold to Cornelius S. Cooper. From that time until 1923 nine transfers are recorded. The present owner purchased it that year from the Franklin Society for Home Building and Savings.

A tradition has grown up around this house - also claimed by a neighboring house - that a John Christie, a miller, was captured by Hessian soldiers after he hid in the chimney of the house and carried back and imprisoned in the Sugar House in New York City. Our search, however, reveals that Christie did not obtain possession of the house until 1797 and therefore this traditional story does not belong to this house unless John Christie rented it and ran the mill that we know was near by.

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Bibliography:

Information from Miss Elsie W. Christie, 177 West 95 Street, New York City, and from Mr. Walter Christie, Haworth, New Jersey; the latter published in 1919 the geneological data of his family under the title Christie

A search of Bergen County court records by Wallace Dunlop, Bergen County Office

Walter E. Rutt

Supervising Historian

Approved:

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